

# Exploring the Anza Trail

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
  
The Juan Bautista de Anza  
National Historic Trail



## The East Bay - Alameda and Contra Costa Counties



*Hikers on the Anza Trail follow the Bay Area Ridge Trail through the East Bay hills to experience the vegetation, wildlife and views of the two-century old historic route.*

### A Search for Water

Anza came to the East Bay with one thing in mind: to search for a fresh water source to the San Francisco Bay. Seeking *el Río de San Francisco*, Anza led a small contingent of soldiers through the coastal woodlands of what is present day Fremont, San Leandro, and Oakland. Camping at small creeks in Hayward and San Pablo, the soldiers moved north to the Carquinez Strait. With views of the snow-capped Sierra Nevada mountains on the horizon, Anza eventually gave up his quest, assuming that the strait was a mere backwater of the bay. He never realized that his final campsite was only a few miles west of the junction of two of California's most powerful rivers - the Sacramento and the San Joaquin.

### Enjoying the Trail



*Recreational route trail sign*

**Hiking, Biking, and Riding** - There are almost 60 miles of existing Anza Trail to explore in the East Bay. From Castro Valley north to Richmond, the Anza recreational trail follows the East Bay Ridge Trail. Beginning in Cull Canyon in Castro Valley and running north to Wildcat Canyon in Richmond, the recreational trail offers excellent vistas of the historical route as well as camping opportunities at Anthony Chabot Regional Park. Along the Carquinez Strait, the Delta de Anza Trail runs from Concord to Oakley for nearly 20 miles and connects with the Marsh Canyon Trail south to Brentwood.



*Equestrians and bikers sharing the Delta de Anza*

**Driving** - The Anza Trail in the East Bay travels through some of the most pristine and scenic segments of the entire 1,200-mile route. From the Carquinez Strait to the oak covered ravines of the Diablo Range, people of all abilities can experience a tremendous array of historic landscapes.

**To Drive the Trail** - The Anza Auto Route enters Alameda County on Warm Springs Blvd. in Fremont. At Mission Blvd, turn right on State Route (SR) 238 to I-580/80. Continue north to Hercules; exit north on San Pablo Ave./SR 4. San Pablo becomes Pomona Street. Continue traveling east. Turn right on Alhambra Ave. and travel south to SR 4. Enter the freeway and continue east until it joins County Road J4 on Byron Highway and go south. Turn right on Mountain House Road. At Midway, turn left and travel south to Paterson Pass Road. At Paterson, turn right (west). Turn left (south) at Greenville Road and continue to Tesla Road/County Road J2 and turn right (south). Continue down J2 and turn left (south) on Mines Road/San Antonio Road to Mt. Hamilton and San Jose.



*Driving route trail sign*



Map



Historic Sites

**Rodeo Campsite** - On Main Road in Rodeo, between 4th and 6th streets, a marker commemorates the campsite used by the Anza expedition in 1776.

**Vista del Río** - From this hill overlooking Selby, west of the Carquinez Bridge, all the points described in Anza’s diaries can be seen. It can be reached from San Pablo Ave. by turning right on *Vista del Río* in the town of Selby.



*Singers at the Martinez Adobe, Martinez*

**Martinez Adobe** - Located inside the grounds of the John Muir National Historic Site in Martinez, the well-preserved adobe was built by descendants from the expedition as part of the Martinez land grant that included 17,000 acres near the Carquinez Strait. Open to the public daily.

**Don Fernando Pacheco Adobe** - This well-kept adobe belonged to the son of Salvio Pacheco, an Anza expedition descendant. It is located at 3119 Grant St., Concord. A plaque recognizing the Anza expedition is within the park. Open to the public.

**Peralta Hacienda** - As the last remnant of the Peralta land grant, this river front site includes a historic house and park that interpret the Spanish, Mexican, and Ohlone periods. It is open to the public and is located in Fruitvale at 2465 34th Ave., Oakland.



*Peralta Hacienda, Oakland*

**Rancho Higuera Historical Park** - Built by expedition descendants at the foot of Mission Peak in Warm Springs, this historic adobe stands today at 47300 Higuera Blvd. in Fremont and can be visited by calling (510) 284- 4000.

**Anza Park at San Lorenzo Creek** - Located at the corner of Foothill and City Center Drive along the San Lorenzo Creek (*Arroyo de la Harina*) in Hayward, this small park commemorates the campsite used by the Anza expedition. Displays and a network of trails are planned for the park and river in the near future.

**Mission San Jose** - Built nearly 30 years after the arrival of the Anza expedition, the mission greatly influenced the indigenous people of the East Bay and the landscape. Many Ohlone were drawn to work and live in the mission. They managed large herds of sheep and cattle throughout the region, dramatically changing the native landscape. The Mission is located at 43300 Mission Blvd at Washington Blvd, Fremont, (510) 657-1979.

Contact

The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail was created by Congress in 1990 to commemorate the epic journey of colonists from Mexico to San Francisco. The trail is administered by the National Park Service in cooperation with public and private partners. For information about the trail, contact the trail superintendent at 1111 Jackson, Oakland California, 94607. Or call (510) 817-1438. (English); (510) 817-1323 (Spanish). You can visit the trail website at [www.nps.gov/juba](http://www.nps.gov/juba) or at <http://anza.uoregon.edu>.